

## PREFACE

The mission of the United States Army is to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. The Army does this by deterring war and, when deterrence fails, by achieving quick, decisive victory—on and off the battlefield—anywhere in the world and under virtually any conditions as part of a joint team. How the Army thinks about accomplishing its mission is the subject of this manual.

The US Army is doctrine-based—doctrinally capable of handling large campaigns as well as combat in a variety of scenarios. FM 100-5 is the Army's keystone warfighting doctrine. It is a guide for Army commanders. It describes how to think about the conduct of campaigns, major operations, battles, engagements, and operations other than war. It addresses fundamentals of a force-projection army with forward-deployed forces. It applies to the Total Army, active and reserve components as well as Army civilians. Finally, FM 100-5 furnishes the authoritative foundation for subordinate doctrine, force design, materiel acquisition, professional education, and individual and unit training.

Army operations doctrine builds on the collective knowledge and wisdom gained through recent conduct of operations—combat as well as operations other than war—numerous exercises, and the deliberate process of informed reasoning throughout the Army. It is rooted in time-tested principles and fundamentals, while accommodating new technologies and diverse threats to national security.

This keystone manual links Army roles and missions to the *National Military Strategy*, of which power projection is a fundamental principle. Thus, force projection—the military's ability to respond quickly and decisively to global requirements—is fundamental to Army operations doctrine. The Army recognizes that it will normally operate in combination with air, naval, and space assets to achieve the overall strategic aim of decisive land combat. It also recognizes that operations outside the United States will usually be in conjunction with allies.

The proponent of this manual is HQ TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 directly to Commander, US Army Training and Doctrine Command, ATTN: ATDO-A, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-5000.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns or pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.